



Minutes of a meeting of the Chippenham Youth Council held virtually on Zoom, on 26 May 2021 at 4.30pm.

**Youth Councillors present:**

Tom Berry (from 4.45)                      Andrew Berry  
Declan Kiely                                    Isabelle Pettinger (Chairman)

**Officers present:** Michael Weeks, Democratic and Civic Officer, CTC  
Maisie Simpson, Marketing Assistant, CTC  
Elaine Davis, Engagement Officer Chippenham Museum, CTC  
Esme Griffiths, Museum Assistant, CTC  
Oliver Phipps, Community Engagement Manager, Wiltshire Council

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies of absence were received from Youth Councillor Ayla Erencan.

2. **MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

There were no matters arising from the previous meetings, it was agreed with all in favour that the minutes of the meeting held on 10 May 2021 were a correct record and will be signed by the Chairman at a later date.

3. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUCEMENTS**

There were no Chairman's announcements.

4. **CHIPPENHAM MUSEUM UPDATE**

Elaine Davis Engagement Officer for Chippenham Museum gave a presentation to the Youth Council about the work of Chippenham Museum and ways they could work with the Youth Council.

Chippenham Museum is a Chippenham Town Council facility which tells the story of Chippenham and the surrounding villages from the prehistoric period to the present day. It is free to visit.

Elaine explained the history of the museum which was established 50 years ago because the Chippenham community wanted a space to tell their story. The museum has a collection of around 35,000 objects and continues to collect items relating to the present day, including objects relating to the pandemic, and the Black Lives Matter protest.

The museum has a programme of changing exhibitions and events for all ages, including children, to enjoy. The aim of the museum is to engage with and

represent its community through its collection, displays and programming. They are trying out new exhibitions, reinterpreting objects and displaying them in new and fun ways to engage people with local history.

People may not realise this about museums, but they play a key role in increasing wellbeing and health of their communities and addressing the modern-day issues they face.

Chippenham Museum tries wherever possible to work with different people, groups and communities to get a different perspective and insight into things. Some people still feel that the museum is not for them and they are working on breaking down these barriers and would love the YC to get involved if they want to.

Elaine emphasised that this is their museum and it's important that it's relevant to them. Moving forward, the museum is looking into championing environmental issues, potentially with a food waste exhibition with a local campaigner and would love to work with the Youth Council on mental health and wellbeing, issues which are important to the Youth Council, in whatever way they see fit.

The museum will be holding focus groups with young people looking at what they can do for young people to make sure we they are represented in the museum. Youth Councillors agreed to get involved with this focus group and Elaine will get the ball rolling.

## **5. GROUPS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN CHIPPENHAM**

Oliver Phipps, the Community Engagement Manager for Wiltshire Council, gave Youth Councillors a presentation on the youth groups he works closely with through Chippenham Local Youth Network (LYN).

Currently these are:

- Café Spiro
- Rise Trust Youth Workers
- Mind Reset (counselling service)
- Chippenham Museum
- Go Train (education & training for over 16s)
- The Photo Club
- Stay Safe (online safety & personal safety courses)
- Barnardo's mental health offer
- Barnardo's work for special educational needs & disabilities
- The LYN also has strong links to all 3 secondary schools & Wiltshire College who send representatives to meetings

There are a number of groups, particularly uniformed groups (such as the Scouts, and cadet groups) and sports groups, which are not represented in this list because they tend to have national bodies they belong to and get support from.

Chippenham Borough Lands Charity work with other youth groups which can be added to this list.

Collectively, the Youth Council, LYN and Chippenham Borough Lands could work on reaching out to more groups and creating a comprehensive list of youth groups available in the town. This list will also provide the Youth Council with contacts to work with on future projects.

Youth Councillors to send names of any groups they are part of, or know of, to Heather so they can be added to the list of contacts.

## **6. RECRUITMENT/VIDEO UPDATE**

The recruitment video is in progress and will be circulated when ready for Youth Councillor feedback. This should be ahead of the next meeting.

The video will be sent out to schools when ready.

## **7. SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATE**

The Marketing Assistant provided an update on the Youth Council Instagram page, which is currently doing well.

Youth Councillors are to take a look at ideas for additional posts for Instagram, circulated with the agenda, and let Maisie know if there is a piece of content you would like to write.

Ruby has been contacted by the bowls club asking if they can promote their open day on Bank Holiday Monday, in the hope of getting more young people involved in the sport. Youth Councillors agreed this was a good idea, especially as it is a sport young people may not have heard of, but they may enjoy.

The radio station Breaking Bath has contacted the Youth Council asking to interview one of them about what they do and their current recruitment drive. All agreed that this would be a good idea and a new way to get the word out. Isabelle as Chairman agreed to represent the Youth Council in the interview. Maisie will liaise with Breaking Bath and pass brief onto Isabelle.

Chippenham Town Council is getting involved with the Great British Spring Clean, a national campaign linked to the environment. The Youth Council could also get involved with this if they wanted to.

## **8. ITEMS FOR COMMUNICATION**

Youth Councillors agreed the presentation about Chippenham Museum - focussing on the idea that it's 'About Chippenham & For Chippenham'- should form a post.

## **9. DAY / FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS**

Youth Councillors Declan Kiely and Isabelle Pettinger are happy to continue with the existing meeting dates until the end of term. However, due to several Youth Councillors being absent it was agreed that a decision would be postponed until next meeting. Michael/Heather will contact the remaining Youth Councillors regarding meeting dates ahead of the next meeting.

10. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Day/Frequency of meetings to be added to the next agenda, no other additions were made.

11. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Youth Council will take place on **Monday 14 June 2021 at 4.30pm** (join from 4.15pm). Youth Council meetings are approximately every two weeks alternating Monday and Wednesday evenings.

The meeting concluded at 5.23pm

These Minutes are subject to confirmation at the next meeting

Signed on behalf of the Committee as a true record of the meeting

Chairman:

Date: